

## Technical Review Cover Sheet

### Panel Details

**Fiscal Year** 2010 **CFDA/Subprogram** 84.351D **Schedule No** 1 **Tier No.** 1  
**Panel Name** Panel - 4 **Panel Monitor Name** poppen, vicki **Panel Monitor Phone No.** 503-620-2696  
**Competition Manager Name(s)** Austin, Diane C.(2022601280); Kress, Richard I.(2022601408)

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**Applicant Name** Los Angeles Unified School District -- Arts Education Branch, **PR/Award No** U351D100117

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### Questions

	Points Possible	Points Scored
<b>1. Selection Criteria</b>		
Need for Project	15	15
Significance	10	10
Project Design	25	22
Project Personnel	10	9
Management Plan	20	20
Project Evaluation	20	16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>92</b>

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Technical Review Form

**Applicant Name** Los Angeles Unified School District -- Arts Education Branch, **PR/Award No** U351D100117

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**Selection Criteria - Need for Project**

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

- (a) The extent to which the proposed project will provide services or otherwise address the needs of students at risk of educational failure.**
- 1. (b) The extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities have been identified and will be addressed by the proposed project, including the nature and magnitude of those gaps or weaknesses.**

Strengths:

The applicant makes a compelling statement of need for District 4 which it seeks to serve. It cites 65% of the enrollment in this area reflects English Learners, primarily Latino and its project targets schools that are among the lowest in the state.

Applicant cites it will address gaps in services in the District regarding training strategies and the providing of support needed for building creative learning classrooms.

Weaknesses:

None

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 15**

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**Selection Criteria - Significance**

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

2. **(1) The likely utility of the products (such as information, materials, processes, or techniques) that will result from the proposed project, including the potential for their being used effectively in a variety of other settings.**

Strengths:

The applicant provides a thoroughly described list of deliverables, including: the development of an Arts Resource Guide for Teachers and Schools handbook; grade-appropriate curricula; professional development curricula materials; integrated lessons plans, and the involvement of noted researcher in the field of arts education, Dr. James S. Catterall who assists with broadening the applicant's dissemination opportunities.

Weaknesses:

None

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 10**

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### Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Design

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

- (1) The extent to which the design of the proposed project reflects up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice.**
- 3. (2) The extent to which the proposed project is part of a comprehensive effort to improve teaching and learning and support rigorous academic standards for students.**
- (3) The extent to which the proposed project is designed to build capacity and yield results that will extend beyond the period of Federal financial assistance.**

#### Strengths:

The applicant provides a clearly articulated rationale for its intent to improve teaching and learning and support academic standards for students. (pg 13).

The applicant's cited research provides a strong argument for the project's approach. (pg 21).

The applicant's whole school approach (pg 18) and its stated commitment to partnering with schools by addressing its needs as a partner are a crucial component of the project's long-term sustainability

#### Weaknesses:

While the applicant cites that training being held at a state-of-the-art facility as being unmatched by the underserved inner-city schools that the students attend - it does not address how the "creative learning communities" that are to be established in the school classrooms will be able to provide a continuum of the out-of-school learning environment. The applicant fails to mention the allocation of resources for this approach. The applicant does not address how the classroom teacher will be able to create this atmosphere of

innovation with such stated limited resources.

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 22**

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**Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Personnel**

- Your comments and scores should address the following criterion:**
- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project. In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for**
  - 4. employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.**
  - (2) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factor: The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.**

Strengths:

The project's key personnel are highly qualified and skilled.

Weaknesses:

While the applicant states it is its policy to provide equal employment opportunities for all without bias - the applicant fails to indicate any personnel of Hispanic descent to assist with Language barriers it previously discussed as a component of its "needs" consideration.

**Question Status: Completed**

Reviewer Score: 9

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**Selection Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan**

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

- (1) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.**
- 5. (2) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and Principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.**
- (3) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project.**

Strengths:

The management plan clearly defines responsibilities, timelines and milestones for accomplishing the project's tasks for all four years of its implementation.

Evaluation is included as a component of the project's beginning (at the onset of the program).

The applicant outlines procedures for ensuring feedback to influence the model's development. (pg 34)

Weaknesses:

None

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 20**

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**Selection Criteria - Quality of the Project Evaluation**

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

- 6. (1) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project.**
- (2) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.**

**Strengths:**

The applicant's methods of evaluation are feasible and appropriate as the key personnel (evaluators) are noted for their work in arts education and ways of examining arts learning.

The evaluative approach includes use of the California State Exam in the English Arts as an English Language Development (ELD) tool.

**Weaknesses:**

The applicant does not address a formal evaluative tool for assessing "teachers learning" as a key component of the evaluation design.

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 16**

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Panel Details

**Fiscal Year** 2010      **CFDA/Subprogram** 84.351D   **Schedule No** 1   **Tier No.** 1

**Panel Name** Panel - 4

**Applicant Name** Los Angeles Unified School District -- Arts Education Branch,   **PR/Award No** U351D100117

Questions

	Points Possible	Points Scored
<b>1. Selection Criteria</b>		
Need for Project	15	15
Significance	10	8
Project Design	25	21
Project Personnel	10	8
Management Plan	20	16
Project Evaluation	20	16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>84</b>



Technical Review Form

**Applicant Name** Los Angeles Unified School District -- Arts Education Branch, **PR/Award No** U351D100117

**Reviewer Name**

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**Selection Criteria - Need for Project**

**1.**

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

- (a) The extent to which the proposed project will provide services or otherwise address the needs of students at risk of educational failure.**
- (b) The extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities have been identified and will be addressed by the proposed project, including the nature and magnitude of those gaps or weaknesses.**

**Strengths:**

The applicant presents a well-organized needs statement with information and research data that support the need for the project. Such information included number of participants, demographic characteristics of students, achievement gap characteristics for each school and grade, linkage of education performance between elementary and middle school students, characteristics of the district schools, comparison of education data between target schools, district and State and the identify of the primary population group. (Pages 2-5)

The project presents research based data depicting four specific gaps in services: Professional Development for teachers, Availability of Standard-Based Arts Instruction, Lack of Resources for Arts Education and findings from the 2005-2008 AIM Project. Specific and measurable data were identified and concrete and practical tools for each gap were discussed and techniques for implementation i.e. year long professional development for teacher with various supports in place to encourage the use of the new tools. (Pages 5-9)

**Weaknesses:**

A weakness was not identified.

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 15**

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**Selection Criteria - Significance**

**2.**

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

**(1) The likely utility of the products (such as information, materials, processes, or techniques) that will result from the proposed project, including the potential for their being used effectively in a variety of other settings.**

Strengths:

The applicant provided a detailed list of products that may result from the project including a breakdown on specific instruments. In addition, a dissemination plan was included that outlined the useful and appropriateness for schools and the contribution to the field of study especially in the findings of the evaluation. The project will be disseminated at educational meetings and seminars, and conferences as well as published in peer-related journals and research based outlets. (Pages 11-13)

Weaknesses:

The project was limited in identifying a variety of other settings which clearly showed that the project believed that the public school setting was the only effective setting, however, other settings have potential such as policy making environments, after school programs and child development departments. The project did not include the use of technology in disseminating the findings i.e. website.

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 8**

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**Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Design**

**3.**

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

**(1) The extent to which the design of the proposed project reflects up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice.**

**(2) The extent to which the proposed project is part of a comprehensive effort to improve teaching and learning and support rigorous academic standards for students.**

**(3) The extent to which the proposed project is designed to build capacity and yield results that will extend beyond the period of Federal financial assistance.**

**Strengths:**

The identification of the goal for the project with a chart outlining objectives and measurable outcomes were provided which demonstrated a linkage between each and the structure of the project. (Page 1, 10 & 11)

The project is a collaborated and coordinated effort between the public schools, Inner City Arts, UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information and Indiana University to bring the arts to the core of all learning in four elementary schools with a large percentage of underachieving English learners.

The project incorporated findings from the current model used and developed within the school system, which is focused on the same population and demographics.

The use and incorporation of the State and National Standards for Arts as one guide in the development of the project which resulted in one of the most ambitious arts education in the nation.

The project further incorporated the model of the Inner-City Arts Initiative, which provides a thorough professional development for teachers as well as a coaching component with follow-up and coaching by an artist altered the teaching experiences and knowledge base.

The applicant provides a range of benefits that would come from this project, which would provide tangible capacity i.e. the aligning of this project with other district initiatives, which would positively impact a significant number of classrooms and students.

**Weaknesses:**

a. The project presented very limited up to day research from a variety of sources to reflect a review of the literature investigating different approaches. Further, the project did not include specific numbers or percentages on the findings of the pilot program.

c. The project did not include a sustainability plan for the project. There are many components that are fundable through private sources; however, it appears that the project is heavily dependent on utilizing the federal grant system.

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 21**

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**Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Personnel**

**4.**

**Your comments and scores should address the following criterion:(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project. In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.**

**(2) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factor: The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.**

**Strengths:**

The project has staff in place that will assume the position of key personnel and included the resumes of all key staff. Staffs are well-trained and qualified and included bilingual staff.

**Weaknesses:**

It is difficult to ascertain the age or viability of the key staff from reading their resume.

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 8**

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**Selection Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan**

**5.**

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

- (1) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.**
- (2) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and Principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.**
- (3) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project.**

**Strengths:**

The applicant presented a chain of command chart that included the key personnel and positions as well as illustrating the structure of the project. (Page 27)

A work plan was included that spelled out the project components and provided a summary of each component and who would be involved in implementing the activities. (Pages 26-28)

A milestone chart listing the activities, position responsible, setting and milestone for four years was provided. (Page 29-32)

The applicant provided information on the type of data to be collected as well as the frequency, different types of written reports, frequency of meetings of project staff for monitoring for continuous improvement and assessment of project progress and the role of the evaluator in ensuring information is shared with staff. The

process shows the procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the project. (Page 34)

**Weaknesses:**

The timeline chart for primary activities was confusing and difficult to understand.

The time commitment for key personnel appeared to be inadequate because of the limited time commitment for most of the staff on the project and start-ups requires a large amount of time and effort.

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 16**

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**Selection Criteria - Quality of the Project Evaluation**

**6.**

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

- (1) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project.**
- (2) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.**

**Strengths:**

The naming of the two evaluators with a brief summary of their qualifications and experiences as well as their relationship to the district was provided. (Page 35)  
The evaluation plan will use a quasi-experimental design and will use a control group of schools with matched characteristics to compare the achievements of the treatment group.

The plan will choose one track (2-3 classrooms) that is representative of the larger school in terms of performance levels and demographics and follow this group from third through fifth grade in order to investigate arts learning.

Three separate and distinct strands will be involved in the evaluation and each strand will generate different types of data. Some strands will generate quantitative data and not qualitative and vice versa, however, each strand will measure a component of the project.

(Pages 35-35)

The project included a detailed description of the different data collection methods and the frequency of the collection. Baseline information was also included as well as the participants, which will give benchmarks for comparisons. (Pages 38-39)

The project goal, objectives and measurable outcomes were included which showed the linkage.

The evaluation plan provides for the sharing of information at different intervals with project staff and teachers especially since there will be several reports generated which will be shared with staff.

**Weaknesses:**

It is unclear the number of students to be involved in the treatment group and if the number is adequate to measure the overall school performance.

It was unclear how the family and parents would be a part of the evaluation and the instrument to be used as well as the frequency.

The evaluation plan does not state clearly the attendance of the evaluators in the project meetings. In addition, there is concern that three reports in two years are sufficient for periodic assessment for continuous improvement.

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 16**

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### Panel Details

**Fiscal Year** 2010      **CFDA/Subprogram** 84.351D **Schedule No** 1 **Tier No.** 1

**Panel Name** Panel - 4

**Applicant Name** Los Angeles Unified School District -- Arts Education Branch, **PR/Award No** U351D100117

### Questions

**Points Possible**

**Points Scored**

**1. Selection Criteria**

Need for Project	15	15
Significance	10	8
Project Design	25	15
Project Personnel	10	8
Management Plan	20	18
Project Evaluation	20	15

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**TOTAL**

**100**

**79**

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Technical Review Form

**Applicant Name** Los Angeles Unified School District -- Arts Education Branch, **PR/Award No** U351D100117

**Reviewer Name**

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**Selection Criteria - Need for Project**

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

1. (a) The extent to which the proposed project will provide services or otherwise address the needs of students at risk of educational failure.
- (b) The extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities have been identified and will be addressed by the proposed project, including the nature and magnitude of those gaps or weaknesses.

Strengths

1. The project proposal suggests limited proficiency in English.
2. There is a need for professional development for the instructors functioning in this school district.
3. There is a demonstrated need in the student body with regard to national placement scores.

#### Weaknesses

1. While the project indicates there are gaps, complete descriptions delineating the gaps are not fully realized in the course of the proposal.
2. Complete reconciliation of data represented in tables is not complete.

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 15**

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#### Selection Criteria - Significance

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

2. **(1) The likely utility of the products (such as information, materials, processes, or techniques) that will result from the proposed project, including the potential for their being used effectively in a variety of other settings.**

#### Strengths



1. Page 7 recognizes the need for sustained student involvement in addition to sequential learning through grade levels.
2. The project provides for an art resource guide for teachers in addition to professional development, integrated lesson plans, and grade appropriate curriculum, as well as art based performance assessments.

#### Weakness

Weakness 1. The proposal cites the Arts Resource Guide for Teachers and Schools (see page 12) as its deliverable to be produced in accordance to the proposal guidelines, but does not specifically identify how the product will be used in a variety of other settings.

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 8**

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#### **Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Design**

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

- (1) The extent to which the design of the proposed project reflects up-to-date knowledge from research and effective practice.**
- 3. (2) The extent to which the proposed project is part of a comprehensive effort to improve teaching and learning and support rigorous academic standards for students.**
- (3) The extent to which the proposed project is designed to build capacity and yield results that will extend beyond the period of Federal financial assistance.**

## Strengths

1. The project provides for training trainers that deploys peer coaches to support other teachers in four elementary schools.
2. The project describes detailed implementation practices and gives the reader a clear idea of core arts instruction, professional development, and art infused school communities.
3. Sessions will be held twice weekly which is an aggressive and supremely adequate schedule for successful implementation.
4. There seems to be some attention paid to arts integration across the curriculum.
5. The district apparently has state of the art facilities to conduct these projects.
6. Lesson plans incorporate innovative coaching programs that enrich the teachers personal resource.

Weakness 1. While who, what when, why were described, the proposal did not deliver an accurate description of how approaches and strategies differ from existing practices. 2. Page 25 addresses the framework of a plan to continue implementation of the project but does not specifically cite sources that have agreed to offer financial assistance. 3. While a great of research data is supplied with regard to project design, the proposal does not make a clear case as to how this project is appropriate for the population of students described in the proposal.

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 15**

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**Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Personnel**

- Your comments and scores should address the following criterion:**
- (1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project. In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.**
  - (2) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factor: The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.**

#### Strengths

1. The collaboration between Local District 4, and Inner City Arts seems to provide the project with proposed staffing needs.
2. Staffing by Inner City Arts will help to ensure art expertise be brought to classroom training sessions.

#### Weaknesses

1. The proposal is inadequate in specifically addressing the complement of artists and teachers involved in the project.
2. There is no data representing the diversity breakdown for individuals involved in the project.
3. Within the body of the proposal, representation is unclear as to specifically who the eight art instructors engaged in art activities will be or what specific discipline they are expert in.

4. The quality of project personnel is generally vague and not specific as to its goals and participants.

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 8**

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**Selection Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan**

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

- (1) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.**
5. **(2) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and Principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.**
- (3) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project.**

**Strengths**

1. The management plan provides for a district school coordinator dedicated full time to project activities.
2. The management plan itself is of detailed description of its activities.
3. The proposal requires a great deal of participation from community members and parents.

**Weaknesses**

1. This ambitious proposal gives month to month descriptions of the interactions between teachers and trainers, but is very general and not specific as to what the teachers will actually be learning.
2. The project proposal needs to be more specific as to the activities of its participants.
3. The project needs to give the names of the individuals in charge of implementing the program

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 18**

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**Selection Criteria - Quality of the Project Evaluation**

**Your comments and scores should address the following criteria:**

6. **(1) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project.**
- (2) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.**

**Strengths**

1. The evaluators chosen for this project are leaders in the field.

Weaknesses 1. Given the fact that this an alternative population, the performance measure to be implemented during the course of this proposal seem to be those generated for other populations of individuals in the majority culture. 2. The relationship of data to feedback mechanisms that are inclusive of teacher student and

community feedback is lacking. Without input from these sources it may be difficult to generate periodic assessment of progress toward their stated outcome.

**Question Status: Completed**

**Reviewer Score: 15**

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